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**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 CFR 1.53(b) is the

- ☒ [X] patent application of
☐ [] continuation patent application of
☐ [] divisional patent application of
☐ [] continuation-in-part patent application of

Inventor(s)/Applicant Identifier: **Masahiro Watanabe, Hiroyuki Shinada, Atsuko Takafuji, Masami Iizuka, Yasuhiro Gunji, Kouichi Hayakawa, and Masayoshi Takeda**

For: **Charged Particle Beam Apparatus and Automatic Astigmatism Adjustment Method**

- ☒ [X] This application claims priority from each of the following Application Nos./filing dates:
Japanese Patent Application Reference No. P11-176681, filed June 23, 1999
the disclosure(s) of which is (are) incorporated by reference.
- ☐ [] Please amend this application by adding the following before the first sentence: "This application is a ☐ [] continuation ☐ [] continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit of U.S. Application No. 60/_____, filed _____, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference."

Enclosed are:

- ☒ [X] 29 page(s) of specification
☒ [X] 9 page(s) of claims
☒ [X] 1 page of Abstract
☒ [X] 11 sheet(s) of ☐ [] formal ☒ [X] informal drawing(s).
☐ [] An assignment of the invention to Hitachi, Ltd.
☐ [] A ☐ [] signed ☐ [] unsigned Declaration & Power of Attorney
☐ [] A ☐ [] signed ☐ [] unsigned Declaration.
☐ [] A Power of Attorney by Assignee with Certificate Under 37 CFR Section 3.73(b).
☐ [] A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 37 CFR 1.27 ☐ [] is enclosed ☐ [] was filed in the prior application and small entity status is still proper and desired.
☐ [] A certified copy of a Japanese application.
☒ [X] Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97, Form PTO-1449, 1 reference, and 3 JP abstracts..
☐ [] A petition to extend time to respond in the parent application.
☐ [] Notification of change of ☐ [] power of attorney ☐ [] correspondence address filed in prior application.

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)
FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA
BASIC FEE		
TOTAL CLAIMS	35 - 20	= *15
INDEP. CLAIMS	7 - 3	= *4
<input type="checkbox"/> [] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED		

* If the difference in Col. 1 is less than 0, enter "0" in Col. 2.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 20-1430 as follows:

- ☒ [X] Filing fee \$ 1,272.00
☒ [X] Any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application.
☐ [] The issue fee set in 37 CFR 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b)

- ☐ [] A check for \$_____ is enclosed.
2 extra copies of this sheet are enclosed.

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Attorney Docket No. 16869P-010300US

"Express Mail" Label No. EL524033072US

Date of Deposit: June 22, 2000

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

By: Robert C. Colwell

Respectfully submitted,
TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

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Attorneys for Applicants